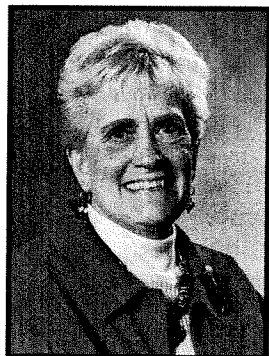


# Hammerstrom's

for the people  
in the 17th Senate District

## Hotline



State Senator  
**Bev Hammerstrom**  
State Capitol • Lansing, MI 48913  
1-888-477-8238  
<http://www.senate.state.mi.us/gop/senator/hammerstrom/>

January 20, 2003



17TH DISTRICT SENATE OFFICE NOW LOCATED IN STATE CAPITOL: I am pleased to announce that, as the newly-elected Senate Majority Floor Leader, my office has moved to the Capitol Building, Room S-8. I also have a new e-mail address at: [SenBHammerstrom@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:SenBHammerstrom@senate.michigan.gov). The rest of my contact information remains the same. Correspondence may be sent to Senator Bev Hammerstrom, P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909-7536, or by facsimile to 517-373-0927. My toll-free number is still 888-477-8238. Please feel free to stop by your new 17th District Senate office should you be in the Lansing area. My staff and I would appreciate the opportunity to meet you and show you around. If time permits, you may also schedule a tour of the Capitol by calling 517-373-2353. The Capitol went through a restoration process in 1987 and, if you have not had the chance to visit recently, I urge you to take the time to plan a tour.

NEW MET ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE: Michigan Education Trust (MET), Michigan's Section 529 prepaid tuition program, will welcome in the new year by offering another eight-month enrollment period for individuals interested in pre-paying the costs of future college tuition. The MET Board of Directors voted unanimously to offer open enrollment between January 2 and August 30, 2003. To date, more than 67,000 MET contracts have been purchased with nearly 12,000 students currently using their contracts to attend college. MET offers three contract options: Full Benefits, Limited Benefits, and Community College. The cost for a one-year Full Benefits contract will be \$6,063, a Limited Benefits contract is priced at \$4,884 per year, and a one year Community College contract will cost \$1,730. Purchasers of the contracts qualify for a state income tax deduction, while earnings on contributions are tax exempt to beneficiaries, as long as the funds are used for higher education expenses. For more information, visit the Department of Treasury website at: [www.michigan.gov/treasury](http://www.michigan.gov/treasury) or call 800-MET-4-KID.

THE 2000-2004 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RESUMES: Friends and family members joined the representatives of the Michigan House and Senate in Lansing for swearing-in ceremonies last week as legislators began a new two-year session. Fifty-four of the 110 House members and 29 of the 38 Senate members were new to their posts. Governor Jennifer Granholm took her oath of office, January 1, 2003. This marks the first time both houses of the Legislature were run by a different party than the Executive office since the 1981-82 session when voters chose Republican William Milliken as the state's governor while electing a Democratically controlled House and Senate. The Senate is scheduled to hold session beginning January 21 and the House will begin session on January 28. The first bills have already been introduced in both chambers and are now awaiting consideration in their respective Committees. For complete session schedules and information on new committee assignments, log onto [www.michiganlegislature.org](http://www.michiganlegislature.org).

DID YOU KNOW? Michigan leads the nation in the registration of pleasure boats and snowmobiles. Our state park system contains 96 individual parks spread over 260,000 acres. Furthermore, we were the first in the nation to have roadside parks and picnic tables.